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WASHINGTON (FNS) — Intelligence agency watcher David Wise seems to be bragging as he points to the thousands of pages of bound Congressional testimony behind his desk.

"The Church Committee issued thousands of documents, so most people didn't have time to read it all. But I did."

The result of Wise's labor is an exhaustive book. "The American Police State," which he calls modern-day horrors in the U.S. intelligence community and the complicity of Washington politicians.

Henry Kissinger, for instance, arranged for the telephone wiretapping of 17 of his close aides during the Vietnam War, then engaged in double-talk and insincerity to deflect attention from the deed, Wise writes.

"Kissinger was very culpable and very involved in these wiretaps," Wise says. But the Senate rallied in Kissinger's favor when he threatened to resign over the accusations, "because Nixon's position had been so undermined by that time (June 1973) that Kissinger appeared to be the only untarnished official," Wise adds.

"This was the time, of course, when Kissinger was appearing on Time magazine's cover as Super-K, in tights and a cane," he



David Wise

WWD photo by Guy DeLoz

continues.

Wise is pleased that Vice-President-elect Walter Mondale has exhibited great outrage over CIA-FBI revelations.

Referring to a press conference during which Mondale compared designating blame for the abuses to "nailing Jello to the wall," Wise says, "Mondale really understood that the way the system worked was designed to conceal responsibility."

Jimmy Carter, Wise believes, is "genuinely sincere" about his debate pledge to reform the agencies, and Wise expects CIA Director George Bush and FBI Director Clarence Kelley to be out of the system by January.

"I'm sure both those gentlemen are packing, right now," Wise adds.

Wise also cites the influence of the CIA and FBI on the media.

"George Bush has yet to provide a clear answer on whether his agency has quit the practice of employing journalists as spies, although the CIA said recently the number of foreign correspondents in their employ is down from 50 to 25," Wise says.

Asked if either the CIA or FBI are actually necessary to protect American interests, Wise states, "We need a law enforcement agency at the federal level, and certainly the president needs all the information he can get about foreign activity. But I'm not sure that these agencies need be the CIA or FBI. Actually, I'm not sure it will ever be possible to reconcile the presence of the CIA within a democratic society."

HILLARY JOHNSON